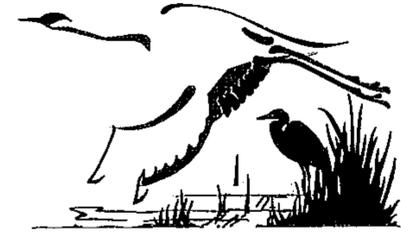


**Response from the Commission's
Environmental Consultant,
Tom Dodson and Associates, on
Environmental Determination**

Attachment 6

TOM DODSON & ASSOCIATES
2150 N. ARROWHEAD AVENUE
SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405
TEL (909) 882-3612 • FAX (909) 882-7015
E-MAIL tda@tdaenv.com



May 5, 2014

Ms. Kathleen Rollings-McDonald
Local Agency Formation Commission
215 North "D" Street, Suite 204
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0490

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LAFCO
San Bernardino County

Dear Kathy:

LAFCO 3178 consists of a request by the City of Redlands to annex a single parcel of land, approximately 0.75 acre, to the City in order to receive City water service. The actual title of the proposed action is "Reorganization to include City of Redlands Annexation No. 91, and Detachments from the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District and its Valley Service Zone, and County Service area 70 and its Zone P-7. The property proposed for annexation is located on the east side of Wabash Avenue, approximately 400 feet south of Seventh Street. If LAFCO 3178 is approved by the Commission the property would be annexed into the incorporated City of Redlands.

Based on the above proposal, it appears that the proposed reorganization would allow the construction of one single family residence on the 0.75 acre. The construction of a single-family residence can be implemented on the proposed site without causing significant physical changes to the environment or any significant adverse environmental impacts. This finding is based on limited impacts on the environment from development of a single residence on the specific parcel identified in the application. The approval of LAFCO 3178 does not appear to have any potential to significantly alter the existing physical environment in any manner different from the existing environmental circumstance.

Therefore, I recommend that the Commission find that a Statutory Exemption, as defined in CEQA under Section 15061 (b) (3) of the State CEQA Guidelines, applies to LAFCO 3178. This Section states: "*A project is exempt from CEQA if the activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.*" It is my opinion and recommendation to the Commission that this circumstance applies to LAFCO 3178.

Based on this review of LAFCO 3178 and the pertinent sections of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines, I conclude that the proposed LAFCO action does not constitute a project under CEQA and adoption of the Statutory Exemption and filing of a Notice of Exemption is the most appropriate environmental determination to comply with CEQA for this action. The Commission can approve the review and findings for this action and I recommend that you notice LAFCO 3178 as statutorily

exempt from CEQA for the reasons outlined in the State CEQA Guideline sections cited above. The Commission needs to file a Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk to the Board for this action once the hearing is completed and assuming LAFCO 3178 is approved.

A copy of this exemption recommendation should be retained in LAFCO's project file to serve as verification of this evaluation and as the CEQA environmental determination record. If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Dodson".

Tom Dodson